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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/635,515	08/07/2003	Mikio Watanabe	F03-156154M/NY	8453

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VIENNA, VA 22182-3817

EXAMINER
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MILIA, MARK R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/11/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/635,515

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Examiner

Mark R. Milia

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-14 and 16-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Request to Restart Reply Period***

1. This Office Action is being sent due to the incorrect citation of a prior art reference Yamamoto, which was mistakenly used instead of reference to Doi in relation to claims 3, 5-10, 14, and 16-21. Therefore the period for response has been restarted with this Office Action.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicant's amendment was received on 9/25/07 and has been entered and made of record. Currently, claims 1-23 are pending.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 9/25/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that the combination of Maurinus (US 6,222,646), Doi (US 6,938,066), and Hanabusa (US 2002/0145752) fails to teach or suggest "wherein the print service server, which is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park, transmits candidate information of receiving spots

including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera". The examiner respectfully disagrees as the combination of Maurinus, Doi, and Hanabusa discloses such features. Particularly, Hanabusa states that a user can rent a remote control device from a theme park (paragraph 226) and when the remote control device is detected by an image pickup apparatus, the user is notified via the remote control device of such a detection and is then able to have image pickup performed (photograph taken) (see paragraph 238). After the image is acquired, it is transmitted to the remote control device to allow the user to place an order by confirming that the image is one that the user desires to print (see paragraph 255). If the user selects the image to be printed, the image is transmitted to a processing section and then to the print system. A print is output from a printer designated by the user at the time the print order was placed (see paragraphs 305 and 311). Thus, Hanabusa shows communication between a server and a remote control device to allow the user to take a photograph and order a print of the photograph at a Location desirable to the user. Doi discloses a service server that contains information regarding attractions in an amusement park and in conjunction with a customer navigation terminal informs a user of a waiting queue of customers waiting at the attractions, among other things. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the idea of a waiting time for an attraction to the waiting time for a desired print to be ready for pickup. It is very common in the area of print ordering to inform the user

of how long the print(s) will take to be printed and ready for pickup. For example, when a user uploads image taken by a digital camera to a website that allows a user to order prints for home delivery or pickup at a local store, usually information such as the charge to print the image(s) and the time it will take to complete the order is transmitted to the user for user confirmation. Therefore, the combination of Maurinus, Doi, and Hanabusa discloses wherein the print service server, which is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park, transmits candidate information of receiving spots including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-14, and 16-22, as set forth in the previous Office Action, is maintained and repeated in this Office Action.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-14, and 16-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,222,646 to Maurinus et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,938,066 to Doi and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0145752 to Hanabusa et al.

Regarding claim 1, Maurinus discloses a print service system for providing a print service based on digital image information in an amusement park, comprising: a print service server connected to a network (see Fig. 1 and column 3 lines 21-30), and a digital camera that has a communication function and is connected to the print service server via the network (see Figs. 1 and 2 and column 2 lines 21-35), wherein the digital camera transmits digital image information to be printed and order information to the print service server via the network (see column 3 lines 1-15), and the print service server, transmits print instruction information including the digital image information received from the digital camera to a printing device (see column 3 lines 1-15 and 31-55).

Maurinus does not disclose expressly wherein the digital camera transmits order information including receipt information indicating a spot for receiving a print to the print service server via the network, and the print service server, which is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park, transmits candidate information of receiving spots including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera, and also transmits print instruction information including the digital image information received from the digital camera to a printing device provided in a spot that corresponds to the receipt information received from the digital camera.

Doi discloses the print service server, which is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park (see column 2 lines 42-54, column

2 line 64-column 3 line 14, column 4 lines 60-61, and column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44), transmits candidate information of receiving spots including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera (see column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Hanabusa discloses wherein the digital camera transmits order information including receipt information indicating a spot for receiving a print to the print service server via the network (see paragraphs 310-312) and also transmits print instruction information including the digital image information received from the digital camera to a printing device provided in a spot that corresponds to the receipt information received from the digital camera (see paragraphs 310-312).

Regarding claim 12, Maurinus discloses a print service server for providing a print service based on digital image information in an amusement park, wherein the print service server is connected to a digital camera via a network (see Figs. 1 and 2, column 2 lines 21-35, and column 3 lines 21-30), the print service server receives digital image information to be printed and order information and transmits print information including the digital image instruction information received from the digital camera to a printing device (see column 3 lines 1-15 and 31-55).

Maurinus does not disclose expressly wherein the print service server is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park, the print service server receives order information including receipt information

indicating a spot for receiving a print via the network, and transmits print information including the digital image instruction information received from the digital camera to a printing device provided in a spot that corresponds to the receipt information received from the digital camera, and transmits candidate information of receiving spots including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera.

Doi discloses wherein the print service server is accessible to a database storing information about attractions in the amusement park (see column 2 lines 42-54, column 2 line 64-column 3 line 14, column 4 lines 60-61, and column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44) and transmits candidate information of receiving spots including receivable time information and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera prior to receiving the receipt information based on existing position information of the digital camera (see column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Hanabusa discloses the print service server receives order information including receipt information indicating a spot for receiving a print via the network, and transmits print information including the digital image instruction information received from the digital camera to a printing device provided in a spot that corresponds to the receipt information received from the digital camera (see paragraphs 310-312).



Maurinus, Doi, & Hanabusa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, providing services to customers of amusement parks via portable devices.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the user designating the place of print delivery, as described by Hanabusa, and the attraction database and navigation map, as described by Doi, with the system of Maurinus.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide a user with greater control and flexibility to pick up and pay for digital prints and ultimately create a more enjoyable amusement park experience.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Doi and Hanabusa with Maurinus to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1 and 12.

Regarding claims 2 and 13, Maurinus further discloses wherein the digital camera is connected to the print service server via a plurality of radio communication access points that are provided in the amusement park (see column 2 lines 28-35), and Yamamoto further discloses the print service server obtains existing position information of the digital camera based on installation positions of the radio communication access points (see column 2 lines 43-54, column 3 lines 44-54, column 5 lines 44-47, and column 8 line 66-column 9 line 8).

Regarding claims 3 and 14, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server transmits the candidate information of receiving spots prior to the receivable time (see column 9 lines 28-58).

Regarding claims 5 and 16, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server transmits the information about attractions within a predetermined area which includes an existing position of the digital camera and receiving spots indicated by the candidate information to the digital camera with the candidate information (see column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Regarding claims 6 and 17, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server transmits a model moving route information including available attractions from the existing position of the digital camera to the receiving spot indicated by the candidate information to the digital camera (see Figs. 11, 12, and 15, column 2 line 64-column 3 line 14, column 3 line 44-54, and column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Regarding claims 7 and 18, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server, which is accessible to a visiting history database of a user, transmits visiting history information of an owner of the digital camera for every attraction to the digital camera (see Figs. 7A and 7B and column 7 line 23-column 8 line 19).

Regarding claims 8 and 19, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server accepts a reservation of the attraction (see column 2 line 64-column 3 line 14 and column 10 lines 20-44).

Regarding claims 9 and 20, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server transmits the candidate information of the receiving spot and the information about attractions corresponding to the candidate information to the digital camera with map

information of the amusement park (see Figs. 11, 12, and 15, column 2 line 64-column 3 line 14, column 3 line 44-54, and column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Regarding claims 10 and 21, Doi further discloses wherein the print service server transmits the map information of the amusement park, which includes the receiving spot transmitted from the digital camera and the existing spot of the digital camera, to the digital camera in response to a request from the digital camera (see Figs. 11, 12, and 15, column 2 line 64-column 3 line 14, column 3 line 44-54, and column 8 line 66-column 10 line 44).

Regarding claims 11 and 22, Hanabusa further discloses wherein the map information to be transmitted to the digital camera includes imaging spot information of the amusement park (see paragraphs 310-312).

Regarding claim 23, although Maurinus, Doi, and Hanabusa do not disclose expressly wherein the digital camera transmits a desired time for receiving a print to the print service server, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide such a feature because it is common in print ordering systems to allow the user to select a desired time to receive prints, whether it be a certain day of the week or a certain week of a month, etc.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 4 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other limitations in the claims), wherein the digital camera transmits a desired time for receiving a print to the print service server, and the print service server transmits the candidate information of receiving spots in order that the receivable time is closer to the desired time, as set forth in claim(s) 4 and 15.

***Conclusion***

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

Application/Control Number:  
10/635,515  
Art Unit: 2625

Page 12

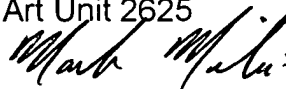
extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Haskins can be reached at (571) 272-7406. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark R. Milia  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2625



MRM



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER